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Attorney Docket: 1525C/107

System and Method for Facilitating Bilateral and Multilateral Decision-Making

Abstract

A method for facilitating evaluation, in connection with the procurement or

10   delivery of products or services, in at least one of (i) a potential financial

transaction and (ii) operation of an enterprise, each context involving a member of

a first class of parties in a first role and a member of a second class of

counterparties in a second role. The method of one embodiment includes:

a.   obtaining from each of the parties in the first class and storing in a first

15   digital storage medium responses to a first set of questions eliciting revelation of

preferences that can be used to estimate the closeness of such party's fit with a

counterparty in such context;

b.   obtaining from each of the counterparties in the second class and

storing in a second digital storage medium responses to a second set of questions

20   eliciting revelation of preferences that can be used to estimate the closeness of such

counterparty's fit with a party in such context;

c.   deriving, in a first computer process, from the responses of each such

party a first preference profile for each such party;

d.   deriving, in a second computer process, from the responses of each

25   such counterparty a second preference profile for each such counterparty;

e.   for each party, analyzing, in a third computer process, the preference

profile of such party in relation to the preference profiles of the counterparties to

derive a first list of counterparties providing a relatively close fit of such party's

preferences with those of counterparties on the list and communicating the list to

30   such party.